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THE CUSTOMS AREAS OF THE WORLD
(Memorandum prepared by the Secretary-General)

1. The problem of defining the country, or customs area, to which imports and exports are attributed in compilations of external trade data was considered by the Statistical Commission at its sixth session. The Commission noted that the International Convention Relating to Economic Statistics (Geneva, 1928) had provided that the countries (statistical territories) to be shown in statements of trade analysed by countries should correspond with the list given in Part II of Annex I of the Convention. Events since the date of adoption of the Convention have rendered that list obsolete in a number of respects. The Commission considered a memorandum by the Secretariat (E/CN.3/127) which gave a brief description of the customs areas of the world based on official information available to the Statistical Office in February 1951 and which indicated a number of areas for which information was lacking.
2. In paragraph 20 of its report of the sixth session (E/1994 E/CN.3/139) the Commission "agreed on the principle that the customs area of each country, as defined by the country itself, should constitute the basis upon which the trading partners of each country compile their statistics of trade-by-countries". In order to establish accurately the definition of each customs area, the Commission stated that it would be necessary to obtain from each country a definition of its customs area, and recommended the following resolution to the Economic and Social Council which was adopted at its thirteenth session (380B(XIII)):

54-01406

"The Economic and Social Council

Recognizing that the "List of Countries (Territories to which the Statistics Apply)" which is Part II of Annex I of the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics (1928) has been rendered obsolete by events,

Invites the Secretary-General to compile, with the concurrence of each country concerned, and to issue, a summary of the official definitions made by Governments themselves of their customs areas, and to keep the summary up to date by periodic revisions;

Requests each Member Government in compiling trade-by-country statistics to use, so far as it is able, as the definition of the territory with which it has traded the definition of that territory for customs purposes provided by the Government concerned."

3. In order to comply with this resolution, countries were requested to supply a description of their customs areas and, where appropriate, the customs areas of their dependencies and associated territories, and also to give information relating to differences between their customs area and their geographical area such as customs enclaves and exclaves, customs unions. The opportunity was taken in this correspondence to request information about free ports and free zones in each country.

4. The annex to this paper contains a preliminary list of customs areas based on official information from countries. Where no information had been furnished directly by the appropriate country but authoritative information was none the less available, the area is marked by an asterisk indicating that the information is authoritative but may be incomplete. When no authoritative current information is available, the name of the country or territory in question is marked by two asterisks. Where the customs and the geographical areas coincide, no comment is made against the name of the area. Where a country has stated that there is a difference between the customs area and the geographical area, (e.g. where there exist enclaves and exclaves) mention of such differences is made under "comments" opposite the name of the area. The descriptions given do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

5. In this paper the customs area is, for statistical purposes, taken to mean the area in respect of which the customs exercises control over the entry

of foreign goods. A region in the geographical territory of country A, but included not in the customs area of A, but in the customs area of another country B, is a customs exclave of A and a customs enclave of B.

6. As more countries supply definitions of their customs areas, the list shown in the annex will be appropriately revised. The Commission is asked to take note of the list in its preliminary form.

ANNEX

CUSTOMS AREAS OF THE WORLD

(The customs area coincides with the geographical area unless otherwise stated)

NAME OF AREA	COMMENTS
ADEN (COLONY AND PROTECTORATE)	
AFGHANISTAN*	
ALASKA	(See United States of America.)
ALBANIA*	
ALBORAN AND PEREGIL**	
ALGERIA	
ALHUCEMAS**	
AMERICAN SAMOA	American Samoa includes Swains Island.
ANDORRA, REPUBLIC OF*	
ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN	Includes the Gambia enclave in Ethiopia
ANGOLA	
ARGENTINA*	
AUSTRALIA	<p>The customs area comprises the States of New South Wales (including Australian Capital Territory), Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, and the Northern Territory. The State of New South Wales includes Lord Howe Island; the State of Tasmania includes Macquarie Island and Northern Territory includes Ashmore and Cartier Islands.</p> <p>Non-contiguous territories and mandated areas are treated as outside countries.</p> <p>Customs control is not maintained in Australian Antarctic Territory.</p>
AUSTRIA	<p>Austria has two exclaves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) exclave <u>Mittelberg im Kleinen Walsertal in Vorarlberg</u> (established by the State Treaty of December 2nd, 1890; RGBI No 41/1891)(2) exclave <u>Jungholz in Tirol</u> (established by the State Treaty of May 3rd, 1868: RGBI No.78). <p>A free zone at Linz was established in June 1953.</p>

BAHAMA ISLANDS

BAHREIN, PROTECTED STATE OF

BARBADOS

BASUTOLAND

(See Union of South Africa)

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

(See Union of South Africa)

BELGIAN CONGO AND RUANDA URUNDI

BELGIUM-LUXEMBOURG
(Economic Union)

Economic Union of Belgium including the districts of Eupen and Malmedy and of Luxembourg.

BERMUDA

BHUTAN*

BOLIVIA*

BRAZIL

The Island of Fernando de Noronha is a free zone.

BRITISH GUIANA

BRITISH HONDURAS

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

BRUNEI

BULGARIA*

BURMA

CAMEROONS (BRITISH)

(See Nigeria)

CAMEROONS (FRENCH)

CANADA

Effective 1 April 1949 Newfoundland was added to the customs area of Canada as a result of the union between Newfoundland and Canada. Newfoundland comprises the island of Newfoundland and the mainland territory known as the coast of Labrador.

CANAL ZONE

The cities of Balboa and Cristobal are within the geographical area of the Canal Zone and these ports handle foreign trade of both the Republic of Panama and the Canal Zone.

CANARY ISLANDS**

CAPE VERDE

Comprising all the islands of the Cape Verde Archipelago.

CEUTA**

CEYLON

There is no official definition of the precise boundaries of Ceylon available at present, but generally speaking customs control exists over the island of Ceylon and its outlying islands.

CHAFARINAS**

CHANNEL ISLANDS

CHILE*

CHINA**

COLOMBIA*

COMORO ARCHIPELAGO

COOK ISLANDS

Customs area comprises the Islands - Rarotonga, Mangaia, Atiu, Mauke (or Parry), Aitutaki, Mitiaro, Manuae (or Hervey), Takutea, Penrhyn (or Tongareva), Manihiki, Pukapuka (or Danger), Rakahanga, Palmerston Suvarrow, Nassau, but excluding Niue Island

COSTA RICA

CUBA

The island of Pinos is included in the customs area of Cuba. A free zone is situated in the province of Matanzas. The naval base near Caimanera in the province of Oriente is regarded as foreign territory for statistical purposes.

CURACAO

(See Netherlands Antilles)

CYPRUS

CZECHOSLOVAKIA*

DENMARK

Customs area excludes the Faroe Islands and Greenland. There is a "free port territory" in Copenhagen.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

There is no customs control in the Oriente region. Fishing activities and exports of the Colon Archipelago (or Galapagos Islands) are supervised by the Customs and Maritime authorities of Ecuador.

EGYPT

The customs area of Egypt includes part of the Libyan or Western Desert, Peninsula of Sinai, Islands in the Gulf of Suez and Red Sea (principal islands are Jubal, Shadwan, Jafatin, Zeberged).

EL SALVADOR

ERITREA

(See the Empire of Ethiopia)

ETHIOPIA, EMPIRE OF

The customs area of the Empire of Ethiopia includes Eritrea effective from September 1952. (The Anglo Egyptian Sudan reports that Gambiela in Ethiopia is an enclave in its custom area.)

FAROE ISLANDS

FIJI

The customs area of Fiji includes Tonga and Pitcairn Islands.

FINLAND

The customs area of Finland does not include the Porkkala Peninsula area, the Karelian Isthmus, the City of Viipuri, the islands in the Gulf of Viipuri (or Vyborg), the western and northern coastal districts of Lake Ladoga, the towns of Käkisalmi (or Priozersk) and Sortavala (or Serdobal), the village of Suojärvi, a number of islands in the Gulf of Finland e.g. Suursaari, Lavansaari, Tytarsaari (or Tyutyarsaari) and Seiskari. Also excluded are the district east of Markajarvi, the village of Kuolajärvi, a part of Kalastajasaarento and Srednisaarento, the territory of Petsamo (or Pechanga) as well as the Jäniskoski district.

FRANCE

The customs territory of France comprises continental France (including the free zones of the regions of Gex and Upper Savoy), the principality of Monaco, Corsica, the other French coastal islands and, since 1 April 1948, the Saar.

FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA

FRENCH GUIANA

FRENCH INDIA

Customs area is as follows: Territories of Pondichery and Karikal, also Yanam and Mahé and the Surat factory in the Guzarat.

FRENCH MORCCCO

FRENCH OCEANIA

The customs area of French Oceania includes the Society Islands, Marquesas Islands, Austral Islands, and Rapa Islands.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA

GAMBIA

GERMANY (EAST)*
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

GERMANY (WEST)
FEDERAL REPUBLIC

The enumeration area is not identical with the customs area, since the enumeration area is not separated by customs-frontiers from the Soviet Zone of Occupation and the Soviet Sector of Berlin. The enumeration area falls, however, within the frontiers, for the time being, of the Federal Republic, with the exceptions given under (1a) below. The frontiers enclose the area in which the Federal Republic and the Western Sectors of Berlin control the goods traffic with foreign countries. The goods traffic between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Zone of Occupation as well as the Soviet Sector of Berlin is considered, for statistical purposes, as interzonal trade (inland trade) and not entered into trade statistics while the goods traffic with the Eastern German Territories under the administration of Poland or Soviet Russia respectively and with the Saar is treated as foreign trade.

1. The Enumeration Area for the Foreign Trade Statistics of the Federal Republic of Germany

(a) Position 1952

The enumeration area for the foreign trade statistics is the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany and that of the Western Sectors of Berlin. Customs enclaves are the Austrian communities Jungholz and Mittelberg, and customs exclaves are those districts of Baden which are surrounded by the territory of Switzerland. The freeports and the free zones as well as the island of Helgoland are included in the enumeration area.

(b) Changes since 1948

When the foreign trade statistics were re-established after the war, their enumeration area covered, from January to November 1948, the American and British Zones of Occupation as well as the respective Sectors of Berlin. The French Sector of Berlin has been included since December 1948 and the French Zone of Occupation since October 1949.

2. Deviations as Compared with the 1937 Enumeration Area of the former German Reich

(a) The territories, included in the 1937 enumeration area for the foreign trade statistics of the former German Reich, but excluded from the enumeration area for the foreign trade statistics of the Federal Republic, are as follows:

The Soviet Zone of Occupation
and the Soviet Sector of Berlin,

the Eastern German Territories under
the administration of Poland or Soviet
Russia respectively,

the Saar.

(b) The Island of Helgoland has been included in the enumeration area since 1939.

GIBRALTAR

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

GOLD COAST

The customs area of the Gold Coast includes Togoland under United Kingdom Trusteeship.

GREECE

There is on Greek territory, a free zone at Piraeus and a free zone at Thessaloniki.

GREENLAND

GUADELOUPE
AND DEPENDENCIES

The customs territory of Guadeloupe does not include the two dependencies of Saint Martin and Saint Barthélemy, which are, in fact, free zones.

GUAM

GUATEMALA

GUIANA

(See British Guiana
French Guiana
Surinam (Netherlands Guiana))

HAITI

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF
THE JORDAN

In April 1950 the West and East parts of Jordan were united and the customs laws of East Jordan came into effect in West Jordan. West Jordan, prior to that date had its own customs procedures.

HAWAII

(See the United States of America)

HONDURAS

HONG KONG

HUNGARY*

ICELAND

INDIA

The customs area of India is defined as excluding the state of Jammu and Kashmir, the French establishments of Pondicherry, Karikal, Mahe and Yanam and the Portuguese settlements of Goa, Daman and Diu. The Andaman and Nicobar islands which are off the mainland are within the customs area.

INDOCHINA

Indochina constituted a single customs territory up to the end of 1950, at which date a Custom Union came into force between the three countries of Laos, Cambodia and Viet-Nam.

INDONESIA, REPUBLIC OF

The Republic of Indonesia is the same as the former Netherlands-East-Indies but excludes Netherlands New Guinea (since 1 January 1950). The former residency of Riau also called Riouw or Rhio and Dependencies comprising the Riau and Lingga Archipelagoes is a free zone.

IRAN*

IRAQ*

IRELAND, REPUBLIC OF

There is a free zone at Shannon airport which was established in April 1947.

ISRAEL

ITALY

The customs territory of Italy comprises the area within the land and sea frontiers except the State of the Vatican City and the communes of Livigno and Campione. There are free ports at Venice, Naples, Brindisi and Messina, and free zones at Corizia and Val d'Aosta.

Italy maintains a customs union with the Republic of San Marino.

JAMAICA AND DEPENDENCIES

JAPAN

The customs area consists of Honshu, Hokkaido, Shikoku, Kyushu and their adjacent islands. Of these adjacent islands the following have since May 1949 been outside the customs area i.e. Chishima (Kurila) Islands including Goyomai Islands of Ogasawara, Yuo, Daitojima, Okitori, Minamitori, Nakanotori, Take and the South-Western Islands south of 30° North latitude (including Kuchino-shima Island). Since April 1952 the following territories have also been outside the customs area i.e. Nansei Shoto south of 29° North latitude (including the Ryuku and the Daito Islands), Nampo Shoto south of Sofu Gran (including the Bonin Islands, Rosario Island and the Volcano Islands), Parece Vela and Marcus Islands.

JORDAN

(see Hashimite Kingdom of)

KASHMIR*

KENYA

KOREA**

KUWAIT, SHEIKDOM OF

LEBANON

Before 14 March 1950 Lebanon was part of the customs union of Syria and Lebanon. At present the customs area of Lebanon coincides with its geographical area. Beirut and Tripoli in Lebanon each contains a free zone, the former was in operation at the time of the customs union, the latter began to operate in 1952.

LEEWARD ISLANDS

In the Leeward Islands there are four separate customs territories namely Antigua, Montserrat, St. Christopher-Nevis and the British Virgin Islands.

LIBERIA

A free port was established at Monrovia in July 1948.

LIBYA*

UNITED KINGDOM OF

LIECHTENSTEIN

(see Switzerland)

LUXEMBOURG

(see Belgium-Luxembourg)

MACAO

The customs area includes the islands of Taipa and Coloane.

MADAGASCAR AND DEPENDENCIES

MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

There are two customs areas as follows:

1. Federation of Malaya (comprising the protected states and the Settlements).
2. Singapore (including Christmas and Cocos Keeling Islands).

MALDIVE ISLANDS

Protected State of

MALTA

The customs area includes Gozo and Comino.

MAN, ISLE OF

(see the United Kingdom)

MARTINIQUE

MAURITIUS

MELILIA**

MEXICO

The customs area of Mexico comprises the littorals and the frontiers of the country, but excludes islands belonging to Mexico. The free zones of Mexico are all the ports in the state of Lower California and in the Southern Territory of Lower California.

MONACO

(see France)

MOROCCAN PROTECTORATE

MOZAMBIQUE

MUSCAT AND OMAN*

NAURU

NEPAL*

NETHERLANDS

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Netherlands Antilles comprise the islands of Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Martin (Netherlands part).

On the islands of Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Martin (Netherlands part) import duties and excises have temporarily been abolished.

NEWFOUNDLAND

(see Canada)

NEW CALEDONIA

The customs area includes Loyalty Islands, Coral archipelagos of Huon and Chesterfield, Wallis and Futuna islands.

NEW GUINEA (AUSTRALIA)

The customs area comprises North-eastern New Guinea, the Bismark Archipelago (New Britain, New Ireland and the Admiralty Islands) and portion of the Solomon Islands (including Bougainville and Buka). The portion of the Solomon Islands group referred to consists of all islands of the group north of 8° south latitude.

NEW GUINEA (NETHERLANDS)

The customs area consists of the Western part of New Guinea and islands off the coast.

NEW HEBRIDES

NEW ZEALAND

The customs area includes Stewart Island, Chatham Islands and minor islands (e.g. Kermadec Islands and Campbell Island) but excludes the islands of the Cook Group, the Tokelau (or Union) Islands, Niue Island and the Trust Territory of Western Samoa.

NICARAGUA*

NIGERIA

The customs area includes the Cameroons under United Kingdom trusteeship.

NIUE ISLAND

NORFOLK ISLAND

NORTH BORNEO

The customs area includes Labuan.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

NORWAY

Svalbard (also known as Spitsbergen and Bear Islands) and Jan Mayen are excluded from Norway's customs' area.

NYASALAND

PAKISTAN

PANAMA

The customs area excludes the Canal Zone and the free zone of Colon created in 1948.

PAPUA

The customs area comprises, in addition to South-eastern New Guinea, the following groups of islands: D'Entrecasteaux, Louisiade, Tobriand, Woodlark.

PARAGUAY*

PERU*

PHILIPPINES

PITCAIRN ISLAND

(see Fiji)

POLAND

The only free zone exists within the port of Gdynia.

PORTUGAL

The Archipeligo of Madeira and the Azores are included in the customs area of Portugal.

PORTUGUESE INDIA

There are three geographically separate districts which together form one customs area though different rules apply in each. The Goa district includes the small islands of Angediva, S. Jorge and Mercegos, which are in the Mormugao customs area. The Daman district includes the Nagar Haveli "council" (pragana) and the small enclave of the village of Dadra, both in the Daman customs area. The Diu district includes not only the territory of the island bearing that name, but also the small continental territories of Gogola and Simbor on the Guzarat (or Guzerat) coast, all of which belong to the Diu customs area.

PORTUGUESE GUINEA

The customs area consists of the entire continental territory of Portuguese Guinea and the small adjacent islands, the most important of which are the islands of Bissau, Bolama, Bubaque, Orango, Rosa, Formosa, Uno, Caraxe, Caravela and Peciche (Bijagós Archipelago).

PORTUGUESE TIMOR

The Timor customs area comprises the eastern part of the island of Timor and the territory of Ocusse-Ambeno, the island of Ataúro and the islet of Jaco.

FUERTO RICO

(see the United States of America)

QATAR, SHEIKDCM OF

REUNION

RCMANIA*

RUANDA URUNDI

(see Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi)

ST. HELENA

The customs area of St. Helena includes Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha.

ST. TOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON

SAN MARINO

(see Italy)

SARAWAK

SAUDI ARABIA*

SEYCHELLES

SIERRA LECNE

SINGAPORE

(see Malaya and Singapore)

SCMALILAND (BRITISH)

SCMALILAND (FRENCH)

SOMALILAND (ITALIAN)

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

SPAIN*

SPANISH GUINEA**

SPANISH SAHARA**

SURINAM

SWAZILAND

(see Union of South Africa)

SWEDEN

There are free harbours in Stockholm, Goteborg (or Gothenburg) and Malmo.

SWITZERLAND

The Principality of Liechtenstein was united in March 1923 with the Swiss customs territory and thus constitutes a Swiss customs enclave. Consequently the customs line between Liechtenstein and Switzerland has been transferred to the Austro-Liechtenstein frontier. Busingen also constitutes a Swiss customs enclave.

SYRIA

Before 14 March 1950 Syria was part of the customs area of Syria and Lebanon. At present the customs area of Syria coincides with its geographical area.

TANGANYIKA

TANGIER, INTERNATIONAL ZONE OF

THAILAND*

Beginning in 1941 and ending in 1946 the four provinces Nakhom-Champasak, Phra-tabong, Phibul-Songkhram and Sam-Chang were included in the customs area of Thailand.

TIBET*

TOGOLAND (BRITISH)

(see Gold Coast)

TOGOLAND (FRENCH)

TOKELAU

Tokelau (or Union Islands) comprise the atolls Atafu, Nukunone and Fakaofu.

TONGA

(see Fiji)

TRIESTE**

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TRUCIAL STATES:

RAS AL KHAIMAH, SKEIKDCM OF

UMN AL QUAIWAIN "

AJMAN "

SHARJAH "

DUBAI "

ABU DHABI "

FUJAIRAH "

TUNISIA

TURKEY*

UGANDA

UNION ISLANDS

(see Tokelau)

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA*

Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Protectorate and Swaziland maintain a tariff similar to that which exists in the Union of South Africa and in practice for customs purposes can be regarded as in the same customs area.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS*

UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom customs area comprises Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man but excludes the Channel Islands.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The customs area includes Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. There are free trade zones in New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and San Antonio.

URUGUAY*

VATICAN CITY, STATE OF

VENEZUELA

VIRGIN ISLANDS (BRITISH)

A separate customs area of the Leeward Island group.

VIRGIN ISLANDS (U.S.A.)

WESTERN SAMOA

WINDWARD ISLANDS

The Windward Islands comprise four separate customs territories namely Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

YEMEN*

YUGOSLAVIA

ZANZIBAR AND PEMBA
